

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1801, September 26, 1953

SAILING ABOARD THE SOUTHERN CROSS

When the Bishop calls to see his remote island parishes

SAILING in the Southern Cross in the Western Pacific, Bishop Gething Caulton of Melanesia has been paying calls in a diocese which extends over many thousands of square miles of water and tiny islands—the New Hebrides, the Solomons, the Santa Cruz Islands, and innumerable others.

From his headquarters at Siota, in the British Solomon Islands, the bishop sailed to the northern end of the island of Malaita, hoisting himself aboard the Southern Cross by a rope ladder, a process he finds quite exhausting.

The Melanesians are expert boatmen, and one of their delights is shooting a reef with the bishop in an outrigger canoe.

This is the only way of landing on some of the islands. Poised on the top of a wave, the chief paddler waits for the right moment, and then, with a tap of the paddle for signal, the men shoot the canoe over the reef, jumping out to hold it in face of the next breaker. They claim that the bishop has never got wet.

Dressed in shorts and open-neck shirt, the bishop tramps inland to visit distant schools. On Malaita he climbed 2000 feet to get a view of the whole island. On Ysabel Island he met a school of 60 boys who manage to grow all their own food, as well as keep up a good standard in the classroom.

The laughing Solomon Islanders look forward to seeing their bishop. In one village 80 women turned out to meet him, and 80 times over the bishop had to say

in the Bugotu tongue the words admitting them to the Mothers' Union.

On this tour—which may be the bishop's last long journey on the Southern Cross—the ship sailed southwards to the remotest part of the Melanesian diocese, and reached the island of Tikopia in the Santa Cruz group, where the Tikopians, with their long hair and fierce-looking faces, still preserve many of the most ancient customs of their race.

CHANGING CUSTOMS

There he found Mr. James Spillius of London University living in a community of 300 primitive Tikopians, noting their customs and observing their habits which are changing rapidly under the pressure of modern civilisation.

The bishop next arrived at Cherry Island, a remote speck on the map, three-quarters of a mile long, and less than half-a-mile wide.

The islanders came swimming out to welcome the bishop, and he landed to see a beautiful coral-built church in which each member of the congregation sang hymns to his own tune, a chorus which the bishop found "quite agonising."

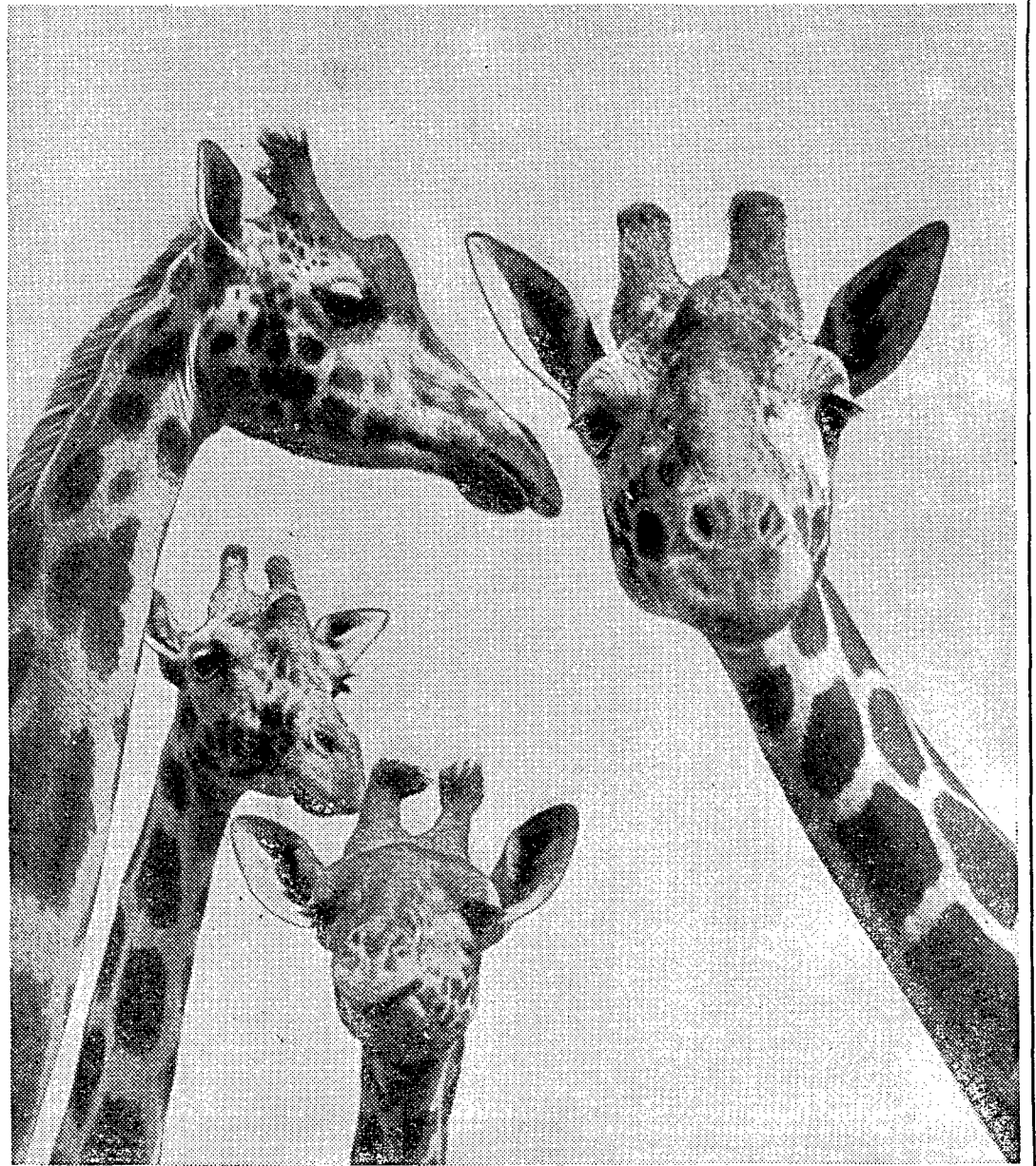
He arrived back on board to find eight little boys waiting for him. All of them having been given a writing slate for school, they then swam back to the shore, each with one arm high in the air to keep the slate dry.

BLACK-AND-RED CHURCH

At eight knots—which is speedy for the little Southern Cross—the bishop came to the Duff group, where the one village has a big new church with black-and-red patterned roof.

The bishop took with him timber, hospital stores, and livestock for farms. As the ship costs £24 a day to run she cannot afford to loiter on her tour; but one act that is never overlooked by the crew is to give a coat of paint to the cross on the island of Nukapu which commemorates the martyred Bishop Patteson.

Bishop Caulton is to retire this autumn from his ocean diocese, and for the new bishop there will be a new Southern Cross, for which the Melanesian Mission is now raising £100,000 in Britain and New Zealand.



Highbrows

Maggie and Monty and their young, Bee and Diane, take a lofty view at London Zoo

NEIGHBOURS ABROAD

While in Edinburgh for the Festival an American girl lost a wallet containing over £6 and reported the loss to the police. The next day someone handed the wallet in to a police station.

The finder's name and address was given to the girl in order that she might thank him. He was a near neighbour of hers in New York!

LAST GLEANINGS

It is being said in East Anglia that the gleaners this year went into the cornfields for the last time. With the increasing use of the combine-harvester there is very little left for them.

Years ago a mother going into the cornfields after harvest with her children could glean enough to keep the family in home-made bread for many weeks.

SPINE-CHILLING MUSIC

Ralph Vaughan Williams's *Sinfonia Antarctica*, which was inspired by the incidental music for the film *Scott of the Antarctic*, conjures up a picture of the dreary wastes that surround the southern pole.

When the work was first played by the Hallé Orchestra a wind machine was used to provide the sound of the gale heard at intervals throughout the piece.

This year at the Edinburgh Festival Sir Malcolm Sargent had promised a secret device to supply the sound of the storm, but after the performance few were able to tell by what means the effect had been produced.

Sir Malcolm afterwards revealed that the banshee howls came from the five horn-players in the orchestra who sang in a high falsetto tone through their instruments.

The idea for this effect came from a rehearsal of the work conducted by Vaughan Williams, when one of the horn players as a joke imitated the sound of the wind.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

The Eastern Region of British Railways can boast of this country's fastest train over an appreciable distance. This is the 7.50 a.m. from King's Cross to Leeds, Bradford, and Newcastle. For 106.7 miles of its journey north it averages 66.3 m.p.h.

Another train of which the Eastern Region is proud is The Elizabethan. Recently this train (now withdrawn for the winter) was delayed for 25 minutes at Hitchin while a slipped belt on an electric generator was put right.

In spite of this it arrived at Edinburgh only four minutes late, having covered the 361 miles in 345 minutes at an average speed of 62.8 m.p.h. with a load of 400 tons.

NOT-SO-SILLY GOOSE

A water shortage at New East Farm, near Berwick-on-Tweed, is being aggravated by a thirsty goose named Louise.

Regularly every tea-time Louise makes a trip from the pond to the farmyard and turns on the tap with her beak.

"I wouldn't mind Louise having a drink," said the farmer, "if she'd only turn the tap off again!"

CHILLY MORTAL

A man who was overcome by the heat in Worcester, Massachusetts, during the recent American heat wave was found to be wearing five jackets, a waistcoat, a heavy working shirt, and woollen underwear.

BARK BUT NO BITE

A Birmingham firm has invented a novel burglar alarm. If someone tries the door while the family is out a record of a barking dog is played.

ON OTHER PAGES

DR. ADENAUER'S VICTORY ..	2
PICTURE-NEWS MAP ..	3
EXPLORING THE ATMOSPHERE ..	4
LEARNING TO BE A FARMER ..	7
DISNEY'S BEST NATURE FILM ..	7
FLOODLIGHTING MECCA ..	8
DANGER MOUNTAIN ..	9

DR ADENAUER'S VICTORY

CN Diplomatic Correspondent

THE most surprising feature of the recent General Election in Western Germany was the extent of the victory gained by Dr. Adenauer's Christian Democrats.

Few observers had expected the Federal Chancellor's Party to be returned to leadership for a second term in quite such a resounding manner, and since the result first became known they have been assessing its consequences.

Dr. Adenauer in his own country and abroad has greatly increased his personal prestige as a statesman. His policies and opinions will have much more weight.

But why should even a handsome victory in elections at home add to his power abroad?

The reason is that the votes of Western Germans have clearly endorsed his leadership and put him at the head of the most stable and solidly supported Government in Western Europe.

His Parliamentary support from his own Party alone must be the particular envy, for instance, of the Prime Ministers of France or Italy.

GREATER INFLUENCE

Western Germany's influence in the common councils of Europe are therefore much strengthened.

For the free world, Germany's General Election has been heartening, not only because of Dr. Adenauer's sweeping victory, but because of the way it was won. The supporters of the two major Parties—the triumphant Christian Democrats, and the Social Democrats who lost—all showed a full awareness of their responsibilities in deciding the leadership of Germany. It was a free election.

The extremist Parties of the Right and the Left, whom many feared could start Germany on the road back to totalitarianism, were completely routed.

All these features of the elections will be far-reaching in their effect.

German agriculture and trade will be urged and goaded and coaxed to make their maximum effort. The rate of rebuilding and the development of the country will be increased as much as possible.

POLICY ENDORSED

In Europe it will be realised that Dr. Adenauer's enthusiasm for co-operation with Western Europe has been widely endorsed by the German voters.

The Western Powers' policy of developing the closer relationship of Germany to Western Europe has been justified by the people of Germany themselves. In effect, they have responded to the faith that Germany would remain staunch to the ideals of democracy.

One question that now arises again is that of official French approval of the European Defence Community Treaty, a problem shelved for some time, although France originated the idea of such a treaty.

Recent doubts of Germany's dependability will now have to be re-examined. Certainly the prospects point to settled and moderate Government for some years in the West German Federal Republic.

LAND OF THEIR FATHERS

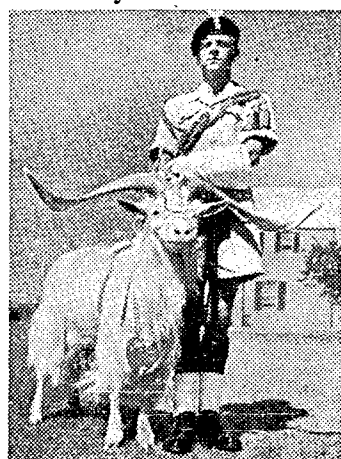
A 150-foot strip of land at Rockingham, Vermont, has been given back to Canadian Iroquois Indians as a "gesture of friendship."

Twenty-two members of the tribe travelled to Vermont from their reservation at the Lake of Two Mountains, Quebec, to accept this corner of the old hunting-grounds of their forefathers.

With the deed they also received a formal invitation to attend Vermont's ten-day bow-and-arrow hunting season this autumn.

"This is like coming home," said Chief Carrying Wood, head of the tribal council.

Billy the mascot



The Royal Welch Fusiliers are proud of their mascot, Billy, who was given to the regiment by King George VI. Here Billy and the "Goat Major" are seen at Hamilton, Bermuda.

CONFERENCES GALORE

Some interesting figures regarding the huge growth of international conferences have been given by the chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Norwegian Parliament.

From 1840 to 1909 the average number was 17 a year, but by 1921 the number had grown to 221 a year, and in 1951-52 conferences were being held at the rate of 715 a year.

A SQUEEZE OF LEMON

Many people like the juice of a lemon squeezed over fried or grilled fish, but if a new way of freezing fish becomes widely adopted their fish will be already lemon flavoured.

Tests have shown that if fish is dipped into lemon juice prior to freezing, storage life is improved and both the natural colour and flavour of the fresh fish are retained.

DOCTORS AND ATHLETES

Some interesting views on the training of athletes were given by medical men at the British Association meeting.

Roger Bannister, the great British miler who is now at the St. Mary's Hospital Medical School in London, said that athletes do not always emerge well from medical examinations. There was even a case of a record holder who fainted during the course of one!

He went on to say that in sprinting and javelin-throwing, speed of movement is limited by muscle viscosity, an innate property which can be influenced little, if at all, by training.

It would seem that sprinters are born not made, he said. But in weightlifting it is sheer force or mass of muscle that counts, and suitable training can develop it.

AID OF OXYGEN

The shot-putter and the discus-thrower require both speed and force, and so the type of training they undergo varies accordingly.

Dealing with the athlete's intake of oxygen, he pointed out that climbers used oxygen apparatus to conquer Everest, and that if a runner could find a practicable way of using it no records would be beyond his grasp.

"But," finished Mr. Bannister, "whether such assistance is justifiable in what is, after all, a sport, belongs more to ethics than to physiology."

Professor A. Hemingway, of Leeds University, said that the severe training schedules which the modern athlete follows almost certainly contribute to an improved performance of the heart.

EGGS AS MORTAR

Eggs are so costly nowadays that most people will be amazed to learn that in A.D. 1600 eggs helped in the building of Scalloway Castle, Shetland.

Earl Patrick Stewart, then the Governor of the Shetland Islands, extorted heavy taxes from the islanders, who paid a high proportion of them in eggs.

Eventually the Governor had so many eggs that, when he built Scalloway Castle, he ordered great quantities of them to be mixed with the mortar. The castle is a ruin today, but there still can be seen between the masonry the yellow streaks which were once the yolks of eggs.

GALLANT GENTLEMAN

A cairn has been built at Glen Urquhart, Inverness-shire, in memory of John Cobb, who met his death on Loch Ness while his boat was travelling at 206 miles an hour.

While preparing for his attempt to regain the world's water speed record for Britain, John Cobb had his headquarters at Glen Urquhart, and he won the hearts of the people.

The cairn is due to be unveiled next Tuesday, September 29, the anniversary of Cobb's death. It bears a bronze plaque inscribed: This memorial was erected as a tribute to the memory of a gallant gentleman.

News from Everywhere

LONG RIDE

Mr. John Critchley, a press operator at a New Ferry seed-crushing mill, is estimated to have travelled 93,600 miles by cycle from his Liverpool home to his work and back during the last 20 years.

Yaws, a dreadful disease in the tropics from which some 20 million people are suffering, will soon be completely wiped out by penicillin, says the World Health Organisation.

HER 200 PRIZES

Fourteen-year-old Edna Lyon of Brechin has won 200 prizes in six years of competitive dancing.

Mr. L. Bonner, a blind tradesman of Welling, Kent, has raised over £300 in 15 months for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association by collecting about five tons of metal milk bottle caps.

Twin brothers Robert and John Carr of Whitby are 94. They think they are probably the oldest twins in the country.

Greenhouses are being warmed by water from hot springs in Kamchatka, Siberia.

VICE-VERSA

A zoo park being planned for New Delhi will have the animals roaming at large while visitors watch from the safety of cages.

A bicycle which folds up small enough to be carried in a shopping bag is now being sold in Japan. It weighs 30 pounds but will carry a 15-stone man.

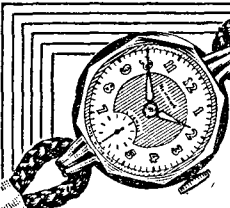
The shoe and leather trade is holding a fair at Olympia, London, from October 5 to 9. Members of the public will be admitted on the first day only.

A senior statesman of Samoa is studying Australian Parliamentary procedure as a guide to the establishment of self-government in Samoa.

LIVE WIRES

During the past year the United States produced nearly half of all the electricity generated in the world.

A number of coins dating back to 1399 have been discovered during the demolition of two of the Three Households cottages at Chalfont St. Giles, in Buckinghamshire.



Watches you've been wishing for!

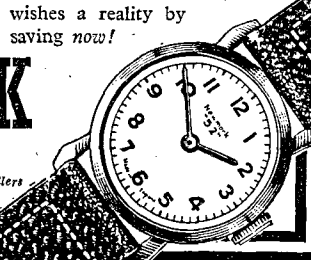
Unbelievable but true... slim, 5-jewel girls' watches from 60/- and tough, good-looking men's watches, like the one below, for as little as 36/9! They're

British made by Newmark, so naturally they're reliable and fully-guaranteed. Make your wishes a reality by saving now!

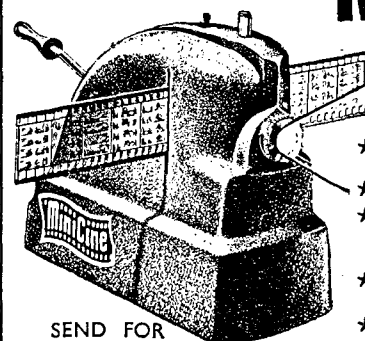
NEWMARK

36/9 to 80/- At leading jewellers

MANUFACTURED AT CROYDON BY LOUIS NEWMARK LTD.



Have years of fun with MiniCine!



A Super Present!

- ★ Entertain your family and friends with exciting movie shows!
- ★ 200 colour films to choose from.
- ★ Enid Blyton and Walt Disney movie films, Natural History, Science, Sport, Bible Stories, etc.
- ★ Projects bright and clear pictures in colour.
- ★ Absolutely safe and easy to operate.

SEND FOR

FREE

ILLUSTRATED BROCHURE GIVING FULL DETAILS

Write your name and address clearly (BLOCK LETTERS) in the coupon, put in unsealed envelope (flap tucked in), fix 1d. stamp and post at once.

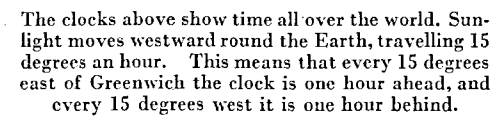
Please send me illustrated MiniCine brochure.

NAME _____

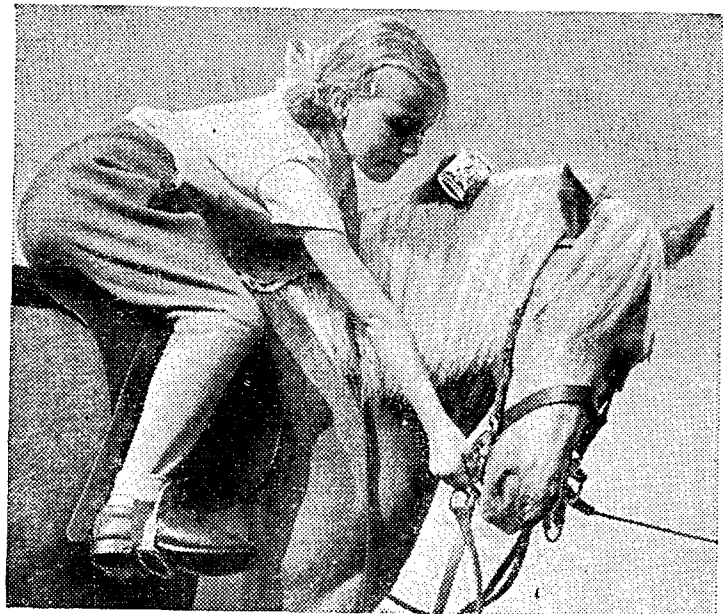
ADDRESS _____

C.N.

To MARTIN LUCAS LTD., HOLLINWOOD, LANCASHIRE

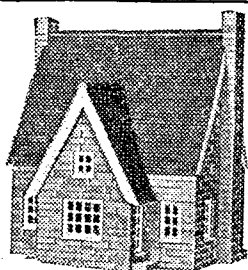


But even with ordinary everyday uniform and means of travel, the Mounties have adventure galore in their daily work of policing one of the largest countries in the world, as you can read in the October **WORLD DIGEST**, price 1s..3d.



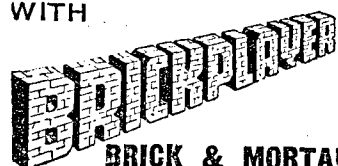
Share and share alike

After both have done their best in a pony show at Ascot it is only fair that six-year-old Judith McNinn of Stoke-on-Trent should leave some of her tub of ice cream for Golden Jingle, her Palomino pony.



YOU can build this INN

WITH



BRICK & MORTAR BUILDING KIT

It enables you to build Garages, Houses, Railway Stations, Signal Boxes, or from your own imagination. All railway models will fit "O" gauge scale. Buildings can be permanent, or dismantled by merely soaking in water and the bricks used again and again.

To all owners of BRICKPLAYER KIT 3

If you want to convert your Kit 3 into Kit 4, which enables you to build six additional models, ask your dealer for Accessory Outfit 3A at 25/6.

BRICKPLAYER KITS AT 25/6 AND 47/6 ARE AVAILABLE FROM GOOD TOY-SHOPS, HOBBY SHOPS, AND DEPARTMENTAL STORES.

If your dealer cannot supply, write for address of nearest stockist to:

J. W. SPEAR & SONS LTD.
(Dept.C), ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX

LIGHTS O' BLACKPOOL

The world-famous lights of Blackpool have been switched on again and the town is crowded with sightseers. The illuminations will be on view until October 26, and by that time more than three million people will have seen them.

In 1949 four million people enjoyed the spectacle, for after the long years of wartime blackout everybody was keen to see the lights that had been denied them for so long.

Blackpool's illuminations consist of over a third of a million coloured electric lamps expertly set to represent subjects of popular interest.

The famous Walt Disney characters are there in profusion, together with a great 35-foot fire-breathing sea monster, a replica of London's Piccadilly Circus, the F.A. Cup winners (Blackpool, of course), and a hundred-and-one other attractions. The 650-foot tableau of Merry England is proudly heralded as the largest thing of its kind in the world.

All the year round 80 workmen are employed on maintenance of the equipment, increasing to 150 in the peak period. Five artists and 60 craftsmen are responsible for planning and assembling the intricate set pieces with which the show abounds.

WESLEY CHAPEL TO BE RESTORED

When they talked of the "Chapel," London Methodists of the 18th century were referring not to Wesley's Chapel in City Road but to a small building in West Street, off Leicester Square, which was leased by John Wesley in 1743.

Here large congregations would gather to listen to sermons by the great preachers of the day. Since 1798, when the lease expired, the building has been used, except for two spells of six years, by the Anglican Church.

In the Second World War the chapel was severely damaged and its roof destroyed. Now it is being restored under the auspices of the Rector and Parish Council of St. Giles-in-the-Fields. The old three-decker pulpit is to be reconstructed and the whole building will regain its 18th-century appearance.

In the Air

By the C.N. Flying Correspondent

New Shorts

SEA MEW and Sherpa are the names given to two new aircraft produced by Short Brothers. The Sea Mew is a carrier-borne anti-submarine aircraft, powered by an Armstrong-Siddeley Mamba propjet. It has a fixed undercarriage and a crew of two.

The Sherpa is a small research plane with "isoclinic" wings. In this type of wing a special structural technique is used to overcome the tendency of normal swept-back wings to "twist" at the tips when subjected to loads in flight.

Ferryfield

DURING the summer months the ferry traffic over the English Channel increased to such an extent that Silver City Airways have decided to build another air terminal in the Romney Marsh area.

At the peak of the holiday season this year, over 800 vehicles and some 2000 passengers crossed the Channel on 158 flights during one day. At Lympne, on this occasion, the fleet of Freighters took off or landed every 2 minutes 18 seconds from dawn to dusk.

Bang went Jacqueline

HIGH over Paris recently a silver, bullet-shaped Mystere 2 jet fighter tore downwards through the clouds, heading towards Bretigny airport. At 18,000 feet a characteristic "boom" announced to Parisians on the ground that test-pilot Jacqueline Auriol, daughter-in-law of French President Vincent Auriol, had become the second woman pilot to crash through the sound barrier.

The first woman to attain this distinction was America's Jacqueline Cochran in a Canadian-built Sabre.

Jets galore

JET aircraft of all types account for more than half of the planes now being produced in the United States. Recently the U.S. aircraft industry delivered the 10,000th jet plane and the 40,000th jet engine to the U.S. Air Force.

Faster—higher

REPORTS from America claim that the latest version of the famous North American Sabre—the F-100—has repeatedly flown faster than sound in level flight. Heavier than its predecessors, the F-100 has its wings swept back at 45 degrees and is powered by a 10,000-lbs. thrust J-57 turbojet.

At the same time it has been announced in Washington that Lt. Col. M. Carl, U.S. Marine Corps, has reached 83,235 feet in the supersonic Douglas Skyrocket research plane.

This is over 3000 feet higher than the previous record set up in the Skyrocket by Bill Bridgeman, and nearly 20,000 feet higher than the official altitude record set up by the Olympus-Canberra on May 4 this year.

GIANT ROCKETS EXPLORE THE UPPER ATMOSPHERE

Seeking knowledge 250 miles up

NOT so many years ago rockets meant only one thing to most of us—the Fifth of November. During the last war, however, the Germans used huge rockets as weapons, and more recently the idea of trips in rocket-propelled space-ships has caught the public imagination. Another important use for large rockets is the scientific investigation of the upper air.

During the past seven years, the Americans have fired almost 200 big rockets for the purpose of taking scientific instruments to heights of 50 to 250 miles, and not long ago, in Oxford, a score of their leading upper-air scientists discussed their work at a conference organised by the Royal Society.

Before rockets came into use, balloons were normally used for upper atmosphere research; but their drawback is that they will not rise above an altitude of 20 miles because the air becomes too thin to support them. But there are many things of interest to the scientist that need greater heights than this, and the rocket is the only means of reaching such altitudes. Unfortunately, it has its disadvantages.

HOVERING

The balloon ascends slowly and will hover at its maximum height for almost a day, while the instruments that it carries make their records. The balloon then bursts, and the instruments drift gently down by parachute.

The rocket, on the other hand, quickly reaches its top speed of 2500 m.p.h., coasts up to 75 miles or more, and comes down almost as quickly, taking perhaps five minutes for the complete trip.

Thus the scientist has only a couple of minutes in which to get his readings. He also has the problem of recovering his results, since the rocket, if left to itself, lands at well over 1000 m.p.h., and there is little left of rocket or instruments except small pieces.

Parachuting from extreme altitudes is very difficult, and, though

it has been done, a more usual method is for the instruments in the rocket to transmit their readings to the ground by radio, where they are recorded.

Sometimes it is necessary to recover the instruments intact, especially if cameras are being used to photograph the Earth or Sun. In such cases the instruments are enclosed in steel boxes and fastened to the tail fins of the rocket.

On its way down the rocket is broken in two by explosives placed inside it, and the two parts tumble over and over, finally hitting the ground at only about 200 m.p.h. The photographs and other records are usually found to be undamaged.

The kind of information scientists are seeking is very varied—not only the temperature, density, and pressure of the air, but also its composition, winds at great heights, the way radio waves are transmitted, and dozens of other matters.

PROTECTIVE OZONE

It has been found that between 10 and 30 miles high there is a certain amount of ozone which, at ground level, would form a layer less than one-eighth of an inch thick. Yet this small amount protects us from the dangerous rays of the Sun. Without it life on Earth would be impossible.

Very high-velocity winds have also been discovered, reaching speeds of 200 m.p.h. at a height of 30 miles. But at this altitude the air is so thin that such a wind blowing on the face would not be felt.



Four Good girls are we

These happy girls are the five-year-old Good quads, taking a gate-high view of the house at Nettleton, Wiltshire, to which they have just moved. Frances, Elizabeth, Jennifer, and Bridget are obviously delighted with their new home.

In Wonderful, Wonderful Copenhagen



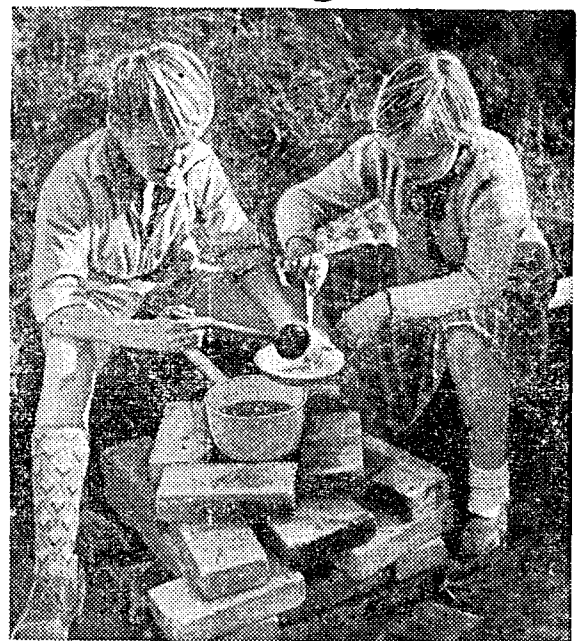
This is the House that Jill built—with a friend's help

It is doubtful if there is a better playground anywhere in the world than the one pictured on this page. It is an open space in Copenhagen which is liberally provided with piles of bricks, planks, poles, old motor tyres, and many other things to delight the hearts of young folk.

Building houses and gardening, making caves and cooking meals—all these occupations are great fun if you do them to please yourself, and can also make as much noise as you like while you are doing them.

But the most popular feature of the playground is probably the old locomotive presented by the Danish State Railways, for if there are any children anywhere who have not wanted to clamber onto an engine we have yet to hear of them.

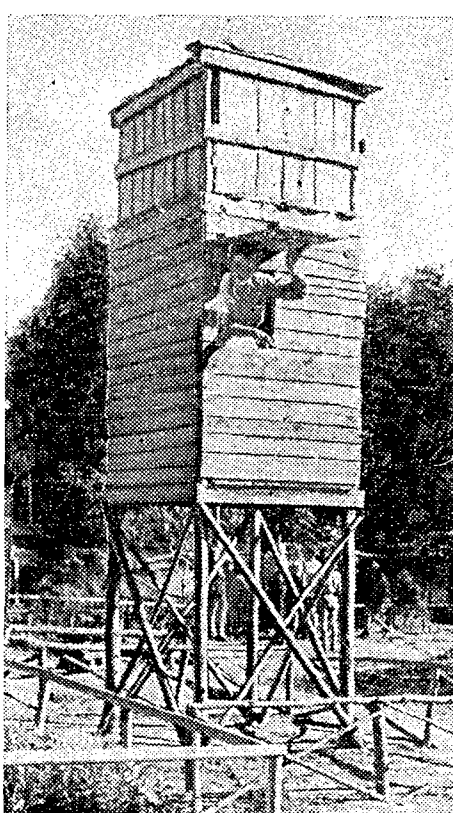
A young woman who has had special training is in charge of affairs, but presumably her job is chiefly to settle disputes in a friendly fashion, for the whole idea of the Junk Playground is for young people to do whatever they choose.



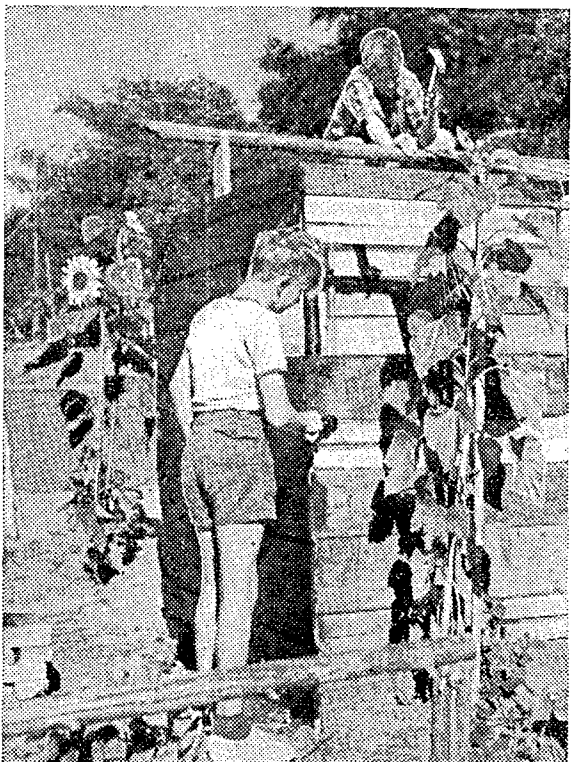
Camping out is always fun, and food always tastes better when you cook it yourself



A favourite with all boys is an old locomotive given by the Danish State Railways



King of the Castle. A boy surveys the world from the tower he has built



Two lads busy building a summer house among the sun-flowers they have grown themselves



Productive playtime. Two lads feeding the chickens in the house and run which has been made by the children of Copenhagen



An exciting race with old motor tyres instead of the traditional iron or wooden hoops



LEARNING TO BE A FARMER

Continuing the story of the progress of young Ian Farley, who has won a scholarship to an agricultural college.

9. Keeping watch on the potato crop

ONE evening at the College, while the students were at tea, the Crop Husbandry lecturer came in to ask if anyone would volunteer to go ploughing that evening. Keen to get some more practice at ploughing, Ian offered his services.

Later on the lecturer came out to the field to see how Ian was getting on with the work.

"Thank you for giving up your own time to do this," he said. "I particularly want this field ploughed as soon as possible so that we can get on with sowing it again."

"That's all right, sir," replied Ian, "I wanted some more ploughing practice. You say you're going to sow this field down to grass again. But why should that be

at that crop of potatoes on the way home."

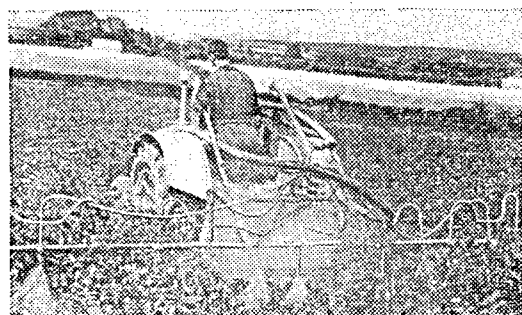
Ian covered the tractor with a tarpaulin and they set out towards home. As they passed alongside the potato field the lecturer closely studied the plants. Suddenly he stopped and picked a leaf off one of them and told Ian to examine it.

Ian could see that there were one or two brown patches on the top side of the leaf, with a grey mould on the corresponding areas on the under surface.

"Do you see that?" said the lecturer. "That's the blight, and if we don't spray this field to kill it tomorrow, the chances are that the whole crop may be wiped out in a couple of days. Luckily there's a special copper compound called Bordeaux Mixture which is very effective against it."

"You must excuse me now while I go to make arrangements with the farm manager about spraying them. Good-night, and thank you again."

"Goodnight, sir," replied Ian. As he walked home he thought how wrong people were when they said that nothing ever happened in the country when, for want of constant vigil, a potato crop worth a thousand pounds could be wiped out almost overnight.



Spraying potatoes with Bordeaux Mixture

necessary? I can see that the grass that's here is not much good, but surely it was all right when it was first sown down. Why didn't it stay that way?"

"Well, there are lots of reasons why grass fields may 'go back,' as we say," replied the lecturer, "but the main one is that the grasses we sow are not ordinary ones but are varieties bred specially to produce a great deal of leafage very quickly."

"Unfortunately, even with very good management and care, these good grasses gradually die out and are replaced by poorer, natural grasses which won't stand up to the heavy grazing like the better ones. So we have to plough up the land and re-seed it with good grasses."

"So grass is really a crop then?" said Ian. "I never thought of it like that before. It was always—well, just grass!"

"Oh yes, indeed it is a crop," said the lecturer, "and it's one of our most important crops, too. No other crop will give us as much food per acre as will good grass when it's properly looked after. Unfortunately, most of the grass in this country is, as you put it, just grass, and not very good grass at that."

"If we could get farmers to pay more attention to getting better grass on their pastures we would be able to keep more cattle and help to give people more beef, milk, butter, and cheese."

"But come now, it's time you finished tonight! Cover up your tractor and we'll walk back across the fields. I want to have a look

MOSCOW'S TEMPLE OF LEARNING

Moscow's new university, standing in the Lenin Hills overlooking the Moscow River, is one of the biggest in the world.

In its 32 floors it has 5754 rooms, including 184 flats for professors and living quarters for students. The main building contains more than 1000 class-rooms and a library of 1,200,000 books, as well as the most up-to-date educational and scientific apparatus.

The grounds of this great new university, which has just been opened, are on the same grand scale. Included in its 800 acres are over 100 acres of botanic gardens, sports grounds, and swimming pools.

PUPPET SHOW FOR WELSH VILLAGES

John Curtin and his partner, 21-year-old Sheila Hughes-Smith, are to visit the remote villages of Wales this winter with a marionette and glove-puppet show.

John and Sheila started their new venture earlier this year after spending the winter making papier mâché characters, a portable theatre, and the necessary "props."

DISNEY PUTS WATER BIRDS ON THE SCREEN

WATER BIRDS, the fourth film in Walt Disney's True-Life Adventure Series, appears with the laurels of an Academy Award.

It is a well-deserved distinction, writes Eric Gillett, because Water Birds is the best of these remarkable pictures and one of the most beautiful nature films I have ever seen.

It presents an astonishing spectacle of waterfowl. The commentary is modest and sensible. The work of the photographers is beyond praise, and the Technicolor is lovely.

Most of the birds are large, and the pictures of flamingos in flight are superb. Not less interesting are the glimpses of pelicans and herons nesting.

Water Birds gives an account of the struggle for survival which is the chief aim of all creatures in this unique record. To get food, some of these birds dive 100 feet straight onto their prey. Some skim fish from the face of the sea while they are in full flight. Others wait patiently and perfectly still for minutes on end before they spear a passing fish.

Most fascinating are the antics of the young birds, some of them just out of the egg. Just as Mr. Disney made screen favourites of Mickey Mouse, Donald Duck, and many other creatures of his imagination, so has he now triumphed in presenting wild creatures as they have never been pictured before.

The True-Life Adventure Series is Walt Disney's most valuable contribution to the cinema.

ONE of the most interesting features of the policy of the Disney Studios has been a willingness to experiment in turning out various kinds of pictures. But it is difficult to imagine why they thought The Sword and the Rose worthy of screen treatment.

Based on an old novel called When Knighthood was in Flower, this romance of early Tudor times, when Henry VIII had just come to the throne, was filmed in England.

The king's pretty young sister, Princess Mary Tudor (Glynis Johns) falls in love with young Charles Brandon (Richard Todd), the captain of the King's Guard. Henry is anxious to marry Mary to old Louis XII of France, promising Mary that when the French king dies she shall marry Brandon. The Duke of Buckingham and others have different ideas, and Brandon finds himself in the Tower. Of course, everything turns out well in the end.

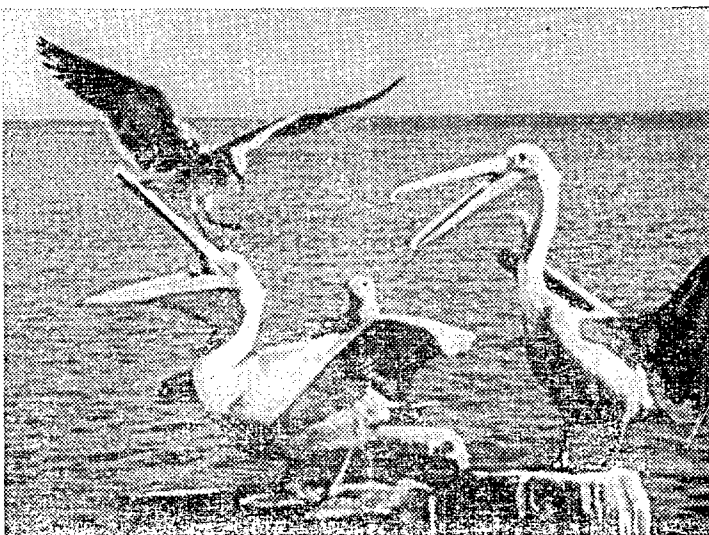
The script is crude, and has little or nothing to do with historical facts. James Robertson Justice gives a lively account of the king, and Jean Mercure acts really well as Louis of France.

WHITE WITCH DOCTOR tells an unconvincing story about the Congo, with Susan Hayward and Robert Mitchum in the leading parts.

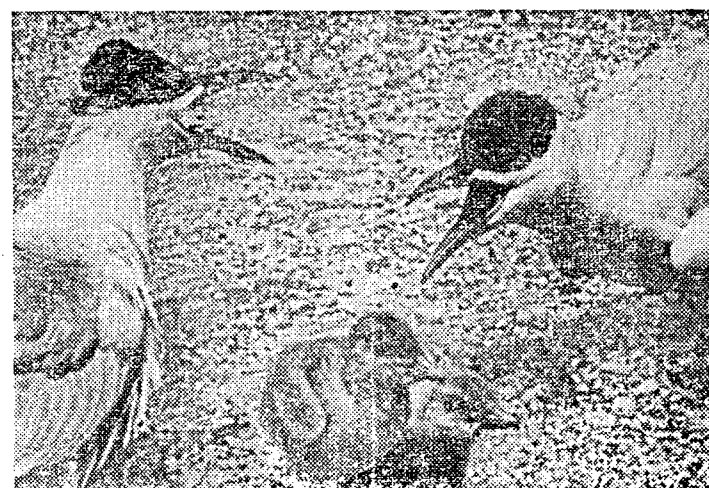
Technically the film has been very well directed by Henry Hathaway, and there is some excellent jungle photography in Technicolor, with effective glimpses of native peoples and wild animals.



An Ibis and a Heron fly low over the treetops



A Gull drops in on the Pelicans



Two Skimmers give their youngsters some advice



Mother Plover takes her baby for a stroll

Some of the players in the newly-released Water Birds, the fourth of Walt Disney's delightful nature films.

BRITAIN'S BUSY RAILWAYS

It is small wonder that so many of our young people continue to be interested in trains, for Britain is the greatest railway country in the world.

Our railways carry twice as many passengers as those of the United States, and cover a greater mileage than those of any other European country; the only other country in the world that has more railways to the square mile is Belgium.

This and much other interesting information is given in the 1953 edition of Facts and Figures about British Railways.

We make 988,997,000 train journeys every year behind our 19,133 locomotives, starting from one of our 6026 stations. Every weekday 24,000 trains run, this vast transport effort being made possible by a staff of 601,381.

The most powerful passenger locomotive in the country is the 3000 h.p. gas turbine driven No. 18100, which is undergoing tests. Some of the most powerful steam locomotives are the 15 engines of the A2/3 Pacific class, the 30 King class engines, and 12 of the Princess, the 30 Merchant Navy class locos, and the 43 Britannia class.

A limited number of copies of the Facts and Figures booklet are available free on application to the Railway Executive in London.

BEST STATION GARDEN

The prize for the best-kept station garden on the Eastern Region of British Railways has been won for the seventh successive year by Mr. W. Brownhill, clerk at Kirkby Central Station, Nottingham.

Two factors make this fine record of success all the more remarkable. The station is not in the country but in a colliery town, and Mr. Brownhill has only one arm, having lost the other in a shunting accident.

It is a notable feat considering all the possibilities between King's Cross and Edinburgh.

Steps to Sporting Fame



This has been a satisfying season for 24-year-old Jean Desforges, who crowned her efforts when she captained our women's team in Germany last month.



Jean came to the fore in the 80-metre hurdles. As Maureen Dyson (née Gardner), who had done so well in the 1948 Olympics, was retiring, following her marriage, Jean's arrival on the scene was doubly welcome.



Hurdling, however, is not her only accomplishment. In the long jump this year, she cleared 20 feet 0½ ins., the best European distance of the year. Recently she won the W.A.A.A. pentathlon championship.



In the relays, too, dark-haired Jean has shared in several great races. There was the sensational British win at Brussels in 1950, the bronze medal in the Helsinki Olympics, and this year's victory in Germany.

Jean Desforges

WISEST DOGS IN THE WORLD

The Longshaw Sheepdog Trials have been held again, and the dogs have fully earned the compliment paid them in the title of Mr. J. Wentworth Day's new book just published at 6s., the profits of which will go to charity. A history of the Longshaw Sheepdog Trials Association, it is called The Wisest Dogs in the World.

The author states that the Border Collie has "probably the cleverest brains of any dog in the world," and pays tribute to the hill farmers of Yorkshire and Derbyshire who "with an infinity of loving care and careful breeding, have fixed and improved the type."

One of the stories in the book is about an old English sheepdog which was taking 30 to 40 sheep along the road at Moscar Cross when a horse and trap came in the other direction.

The dog herded all the sheep onto the side of the road until the trap had passed.

The trap drove on to the Ladybower Inn, and there the driver found Mr. Ben Eyre, a farmer, at breakfast and related the incident to him.

"Oh," said Mr. Eyre, "that's all right. Those sheep are mine. The dog knows."

"I'll catch him up in a few minutes when I've had my breakfast."

WEST AFRICAN AHMEN

The first West Africans to train as civil air pilots have arrived in this country with scholarships given by the Gold Coast and Nigeria Governments. They will undergo a five-year course at the School of Navigation (Britain's Air University), Hamble Aerodrome, Hampshire.

After obtaining their Commercial Pilot's Licence, they will return qualified to act as co-pilot on the Wayfarer aircraft of the West African Airways Corporation, and possibly on the Corporation's Marathon planes.

ENGLISHMAN FLOODLIGHTS MECCA'S SHRINE

Fluorescent lighting is being installed in the great mosque of Mecca, the cradle of Islam.

As night falls on the vast courtyard which is visited yearly by hundreds of thousands of pilgrims, floodlights will bathe minarets and cloisters in a pale blue glow.

Electrification of this sacred city had already been started when the Saudi Arabian authorities decided to give modern lighting to the great mosque. They called in a designer from a famous British electrical company.

As an infidel, he could not enter Mecca, so he had to prepare his

scheme from Jedda, on the coast, more than 50 miles away. No architectural drawings or detailed plans of the mosque were available. Photographs, measurements taken by agents, and a pilgrim's map were his only aids.

Despite these handicaps, the English technician's project was instantly accepted by Arabia's Director of Mosques. Between the slender pillars of the cloisters, bordering the great white encircling wall, are being hung 225 bronze fittings with bars of fluorescent light.

THE SACRED KAABA

Floodlights mounted on concrete posts illuminate the courtyard, where pilgrims wander or sit cross-legged on their prayer-rugs. The designer has used 12 tubes for each post, radiating like wheel-spokes beneath a delicate sky-blue dome.

A great oblong building, draped with black and gold cloth, stands in the centre of the mosque. It is the sacred Kaaba, to which every pilgrim or returning Mecca citizen goes, walking seven times around it and each time kissing the famous Black Stone, last relic of the idols

which were once worshipped there.

The Kaaba, too, is being illuminated in modern fashion, and lantern fittings will crown the 24 gateways in the massive wall, on which are perched dazzling white houses.

The English expert's most ticklish problem was how to deal with the seven minarets of the great mosque, floodlighting those parts which look out over the city.

Now, along the dusty tracks after nightfall, the weary travellers will see these Eastern domes, outlined in soft blue, beckoning to them from afar.

THOUGHTFUL GIRL

Thirteen-year-old Jean Wheelan of Chryston has received the thanks of Lanarkshire Road Safety Committee and a prize of 10s. 6d.

A police sergeant stopped to watch Jean take charge of three very small children who were trying to cross a busy road. Jean restrained them until she was certain the road was clear and then escorted them across.

He recommended Jean for the Spotlight on Safety award.

HIS 5000 PRIZES

Mr. George Stothard, a Gainsborough locomotive driver, won a cup for the eleventh time at the Gainsborough Allotment Society's annual show.

The cup was given by Mr. Ashley Ward of Sheffield, and Mr. Stothard retained it with a collection of more than 60 varieties of flowers, vegetables, and berries.

Altogether he has won more than 5000 prizes in the 30 years he has been a gardener.

THE REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE—the strange life-story of Alexander Selkirk (3)



At first, overwhelmed with despair at being abandoned, Selkirk could not rouse himself to do anything. Afraid that there might be dangerous wild animals on the island, he had retired to a small cave. Swarms of sea-lions came to the beaches and bellowed all night. He had never seen or heard of such creatures, and their uproar added to the horror he felt at being so hopelessly alone.



He soon ate the one day's food supply he had brought to the island, and was driven by hunger to stir himself from the abject state of melancholy into which he had sunk. The island abounded with goats, descendants of a few put ashore by Spaniards many years before, and he shot one with his musket. There was plenty of wood for making a fire, and he had his kettle in which to boil the goat's flesh.



Later he built himself a hut of branches covered with goatskins. He had found that the only animals on the island, apart from the goats and the sea-lions that visited the beaches, were cats and rats, whose ancestors must have come ashore from visiting ships. The rats were a great nuisance, biting him while he slept, so he tried to tame some of the cats, hoping they would come and live with him.



In his terrible loneliness Selkirk found the Bible his greatest consolation. He had never paid much attention to it before, but now he read it constantly. It was the one Voice that spoke to him in this desolate place, and he became a better Christian than he had ever been. But his everyday bodily life began to present grim problems. His gunpowder was exhausted, his shoes worn out, his clothes in tatters.

How is Selkirk to feed and clothe himself without his musket? See next week's instalment.

Thrilling new serial of mystery and adventure in Switzerland

DANGER MOUNTAIN

by Patrick Pringle

Jack and Robin Hilton are with their parents in Switzerland. The boys go out skiing with a Swiss girl named Junge. They see a man climb up the back of their hotel and steal an attaché case from one of the rooms. They ski down the slope after him.

4. Pursuit

JACK and Robin reached the bottom of the slope without a single tumble. The thief had already run across the back of the hotel and disappeared round the side. Junge was following, gliding forward swiftly; the boys half-slid, half-walked, on their skis after her.

They turned the corner and found themselves at the top of another slope, steeper than the one they had just come down. At the bottom was what looked like a road. They saw the thief running down a small path by the side of the slope, still clutching the attaché case.

"I'll follow—you get help," said Junge. "This is too steep for you."

"You're not going alone," shouted Jack; but Junge had already pushed off. "Robin," he ordered, "go back and tell Dad to raise the alarm."

"I'll take ages..." began Robin—but his brother was already following Junge down the slope.

Hedge in the way

Just for a moment Robin hesitated; then, as he saw Jack gathering speed, he pushed off after him.

All at once the skis seemed alive, and as he shot forward Robin felt sudden fear. His stomach went hollow, his legs were like jelly, and he wanted desperately to stop. Then it all passed, and he knew he was all right. He could see Jack still going well, nearing the bottom now, with Junge close in front.

Robin was so sure he would not fall now that he wanted to urge his skis to go faster. Then he saw the hedge at the bottom of the slope, and felt afraid again.

Jack also was scared when he saw the hedge loom up in front of him. He saw Junge end her run with an expert movement that raised a flurry of snow, and then she was shouting to him to press his heels out.

"Look to the right, lean to the left," she shouted. He obeyed automatically, and as his weight shifted it seemed as if his skis were suddenly pulled to the side.

"Bravo!" shouted Junge, as he slowed to a halt. Then she was directing Robin to do the same.

Robin came round in a miniature blizzard, and before he had properly turned he went down with a rush.

"I'm all right," he said cheerfully, as Junge hurried to help him up.

"Why didn't you raise the alarm?" cried Jack.

"I saw the man first."

"What's that got to do with it?"

"I always find the crooks, and then you try to push me out."

"We're wasting time," said Junge. "Take off your skis, Jack. He's bound to keep to the road."

Jack bent down and unfastened his skis, and did not object when Robin did the same. It would take his brother ages to get back up the slope, and now he was down it would probably be better to take him along.

Junge told the boys to stick their skis in the snow and leave them there. She kept her own skis on, and led the way through a break in the hedge onto the road.

"There he is!" she said; and there was the man, about 50 yards ahead, running away from them along the road.

There was room on the road for the three of them to keep abreast. Junge, skiing with an easy skating movement, went between the boys and kept slightly in front, acting as pace-maker.

"Where does the road go to?" Jack panted.

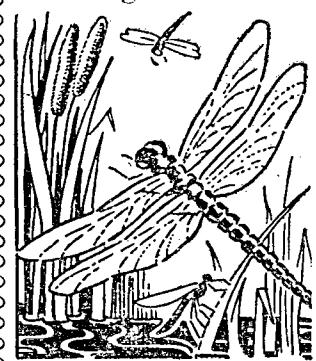
"Frutigen," Junge shouted back over her shoulder. "Twenty kilometres."

"He's keeping his lead," panted Robin, who was having difficulty in keeping up with the other two.

"I think he's gaining," Jack was getting worried. "I'm going ahead."

"I have a better idea," Junge dropped back between the two boys. "You keep on the road—I'll cut him off."

It's strange but true...



... that a speed of 60 m.p.h. has been recorded in the case of one species of **Dragon-fly**.

A brilliantly-coloured insect which spends its early stages of life in the water, the dragon-fly is regarded in a favourable light as it devours injurious insects.

The dragon-fly, after being hatched from the egg, is known as a nymph, and although it consumes mosquito larvae in considerable quantities it is itself an important food for fish.

A nymph has from eleven to 15 moults before attaining full growth. It then leaves the water, the outer casing breaks away, and the dragon-fly emerges.

"How?" asked Jack.

"A loop in the road—I'll go across fields."

Jack did not like the idea, but Junge did not stay to argue. She left the road through a break in the hedge on the right, and the next moment they could see her speeding down a steep slope.

The boys kept on running. The road ahead was still level as far as they could see, but the steepness of Junge's descent showed that there must be quite a big hill somewhere in the loop.

"Look!" shouted Robin. "Toboggans."

Borrowed toboggans

There were two of them by the roadside. They were flimsy, red-painted things, normally used for towing skis. Jack looked round for their owners.

"Up there," said Robin, pointing up the hill on the left.

They looked like two black dots against the white snow, and Jack's spirits dropped again at once. It was useless to shout, for they could never be heard at that distance. The only hope was that the two ski-ers would come down to the road, and it was a faint hope indeed.

"Couldn't we borrow the toboggans?" suggested Robin.

Jack looked at the toboggans again, and saw that each had a rope attached to the front.

"Come on, then," he said.

Taking a rope each, they pulled the toboggans behind them as they started to run again.

"They're light enough," said Robin.

Jack nodded. They were too light, he thought. They were not built for passengers, and would be hard to control. But they were their last chance. The man was a good 70 yards ahead, and they would never catch him on foot.

Junge had disappeared now, and the country was changing. As the road curved they found trees flanking it on the left, and just ahead on the right was another forest. A few minutes later the road had become an avenue, and tall pines shut out the sun.

There was another, much sharper curve; and suddenly they were at the top of a steep hill.

"Be careful," warned Jack, as he and Robin stopped to get on the toboggans. "You'll have to dig in your heels for brakes."

As Jack had expected, the toboggans were very difficult to steer, and almost immediately the two collided. Then Jack went ahead, setting the pace and ready to act as a buffer in case Robin should lose control. But the younger boy mastered his toboggan quickly, and soon they were making good speed down the hill.

They took another curve, and the descent became still steeper. They were now gaining rapidly on the man ahead, and they were bound to reach him before very



"Uncle!..."



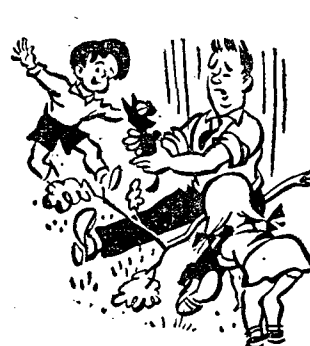
if you...



rescue...



Kitty...



we'll give you a...



SILMOS LOLLIE!"

Everyone loves



SUCH LUSCIOUS FLAVOURS!

The real taste of lovely, juicy fruit—and how the flavour lasts! Silmos Lollies are made by Batger's, famous for fine sweets for over 200 years!

They're **BATGER'S**—sweets ahead of the rest!



FREE SUPERB PACKET

Containing the Spanish Colonies of IFNI, GUINEA, and SAHARA, new CHILD and NATIVE set, also Native beating Tom-Tom. A big pictorial from CHINA of SHIP and TRAIN. The new CAPE VERDE ISLANDS map stamp in SEVEN COLOURS, also a very attractive FLAG stamp from JUGOSLAVIA. All these stamps are illustrated above and will be sent absolutely FREE to all collectors requesting Approvals and sending a 2½d. stamp for postage.

BERKELEY STAMP CO. (C N), Newton, West Kirby



TROPICAL FLOWERS FOR YOUR THEMATIC COLLECTION

Yet another stupendous FREE GIFT of beautifully coloured pictorial stamps from RUANDA-URUNDI can be yours today! Just send 3d. postage and request our cheap discount Approvals and price list.

LISBURN & TOWNSEND LTD. (C.N.) WEST KIRBY, WIRRAL

Complete Beginners' STAMP OUTFIT FREE!!

This magnificent Outfit contains, Stamp Album, Titles of Countries, Mounts, Perforation Gauge, Watermark Detector, Transparent Envelopes, etc. Absolutely free! Send 6d. to cover post and packing and request Approvals.

MODERN STAMPS

(Dept. 0.2), Dykehead, Kilry, Aylth, Perthshire.



FREE NEW 7 BR. EMPIRE

Illustrated including 4 Coronations (GIBRALTAR OR MALTA)

A genuine offer. All Free to collectors asking to see our famous 'Quality'

Approvals (discount or non-discount.) Send 3d. (abroad 6d.) for our postage and Coronation list. IF you wish you may join "THE CODE STAMP CLUB." Sub. 1/- You receive Badge, Membership Card listing fine Gifts, and Approvals monthly. (Gifts include plated Tweezers, etc.) Please state if Adult Collector. Monthly Approvals a speciality. (Postal Section Est. 1898. Our service covers the World. WRIGHT'S STAMP SHOP (Dept. 18), 29 Palace Street, CANTERBURY, Kent.

COUNTRY COLLECTIONS

(All Different)

50 Argentine 1/4	25 Guatemala 1/9
50 Australia 2/-	40 Hitler Heads 1/6
100 Austria 1/6	100 Holland 1/9
100 Belgium 1/3	50 India 1/-
25 Ceylon 1/8	25 Iraq 1/-
50 Chile 1/6	25 Jamaica 2/-
100 China 1/3	100 Japan 2/-
25 Colombia 1/-	25 Liechtenstein 2/-
100 Denmark 2/-	25 Locomotives 2/3
25 Ecuador 1/3	25 Malaya 1/6
100 Germany 1/-	25 Malta 2/6
50 Gt. Britain 1/-	100 Hungary 1/3

POSTAGE 2½d. EXTRA.

Gibbons Catalogues: Pt. I British Empire 1840-1954, 16/7d., Pt. III America, Asia, Africa 19/2. Postage included. Lists of Packets, Sets, New Issues, Albums & Accessories sent on request. Callers welcomed.

H. H. G. VORLEY

35 New Oxford Street, London, W.C.1.

200 STAMPS FREE

to all applicants for our discount Approvals. Write now.

Return postage appreciated

P. OWEN (CN11)

"Bayona," Heysoms Avenue, GREENBANK, NORTHWICH, CHESHIRE

FREE British Colonial GIFT FREE POSTAGE

All applicants for my popular Discount Approvals will receive a mint set of SOUTHERN RHODESIA 'Royal Visit' FREE, and I will pay the postage to you. Just send a letter or postcard. Also CHEESE LABELS available on Approval. 'SELECTIONS' 306 London Rd., Staines, Mdx.



TENNIS STAMP FREE

ABSOLUTELY FREE. To all who ask to see a Selection of Windsor Stamps on Approval, we will send Absolutely Free this nice NICARAGUA stamp showing a game of TENNIS, actually issued in 1949 to commemorate a Baseball Championship in this unusual Central American Republic.

To obtain it, just write for Tennis Stamp Free and ask to see a Selection of Windsor Stamps on Approval. Please enclose 2½d. stamp for posting to you. Don't forget—write now to:

WINDSOR STAMP CO. (DEPT. CN), UCKFIELD, SUSSEX



IT'S NEW! IT'S AVON! IT'S TO STAMP COLLECTORS FREE

This Album has been especially produced for YOU. Start your Autumn collecting with this smashing Gift. It has 64 pages, space for 2,232 stamps, Philatelic Map, Stamp Spotter and dozens of illustrations. FILL IN THE COUPON BELOW.

I enclose 9d. for postage and packing. Please send me the AVON ALBUM and a selection of your WORLD FAMOUS APPROVALS which I promise to return within 10 days.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

AVON STAMPS
(Dept. CN19)
55 THE AVENUE
LOWESTOFT

SPORTS SHORTS

THE A.S.A. swimming and diving championships produced a new star among the high divers, for the men's title was won by 15-year-old David Tarsey, from Ealing. David took up diving only two years ago. Another fine achievement was that of 16-year-old Charmian Welsh of Thornley, Durham, who won the Ladies' Plain Diving and Spring Board Diving, and the Girls' titles.

THE cricket boots worn by Sir Donald Bradman during the 1948 tour of Britain have been presented by him to the Memorial Gallery at Lord's. Sir Donald retired from first-class cricket at the end of that tour.

JOYCE FINCH, 18, of Grimsby, has swum across the Humber from Spurn Point to Cleethorpes. She covered the seven miles in 2 hours 37 minutes 42 seconds.

AT the Cowal Highland Gathering in Dunoon, Argyllshire, Ian Binnie broke seven records in one run. During his run he broke the Scottish all-comers' record for 7, 8, 9 10, and 11 miles, set up a new British one-hour record of 11 miles 1571 yards (beating the 49-year-old record by 475 yards), and set a new British Empire time for the 12 miles of 60 minutes 34.2 seconds.

BILLY KNIGHT, British junior tennis champion for the second year in succession, derived so much benefit from his visit to Australia last winter, that he has been nominated by the L.T.A. to make a second trip "Down Under," in company with Tony Pickard, from Ripley, Derbyshire. The two boys, who will be the guests of the Australian L.T.A., will compete in many of the important tournaments during their stay.

In a recent Third Division football match, the Barrow team included three brothers—Jack, Alan, and Herbert Keen. Their father, Herbert Keen, was himself once a Barrow player.

Two years ago some of his pupils asked Mr. Alvarez, an Ilford schoolmaster, to organise some extra swimming facilities. Those after-school lessons developed into the Sans Egal Swimming Club, which today has 900 members.

ALTHOUGH David Grace, one of our best quarter-milers, was suffering from a spinal injury, he refused to have treatment until the end of the international season. The season finished, he is now wearing a plaster jacket for six weeks.

NEXT Wednesday (September 30) a team of English men and women athletes will meet the Netherlands in a floodlit match at the White City. Although our women have twice met the Dutch, this will be the first-ever meeting between English and Dutch men athletes.

A NUMBER of well-known British sportsmen and women are competing in the fourth Maccabiah, now being held in Tel-Aviv. Over 700 competitors from nearly 20 countries are taking part. In the last Maccabiah in 1950, Britain finished second to Israel.

PATRICK PRINGLE, the author of our thrilling new serial, has for many years been the editor of the Boys' Book of Soccer (Evans 10s. 6d.).

In the 1954 edition Mr. Pringle fully lives up to the high standard he set in the preceding volumes. Once again, there is something here for all boys who love Soccer: stories, articles, interviews with famous players, quizzes, as well as much advice and dozens of photographs

DANGER MOUNTAIN

Continued from page 9

long. He looked back over his shoulder, and seemed to hesitate; then he darted off through a break in the trees on the right. He moved so quickly that they overran the spot before they could pull up.

Jack quickly pushed his toboggan into the side of the road.

"Come on, he won't be able to go far in that thick snow," he said.

The man had left the road on the inside of the curve, which meant that he would still be going downhill. It also meant that Junge still had a chance of cutting him off if she saw him before she rejoined the road lower down.

By his ruse the man gained a fresh lead, and the forest they entered was so dense that they could not see him although they could hear branches snapping a little way ahead. They picked up his tracks at once, and as the snow seemed otherwise untrodden they had no difficulty in following.

"Take it easy, and don't make too much noise," said Jack. It was dark in the forest, and rather eerie, and he had a nasty feeling that the thief might set them an ambush.

"Better be armed," he said, snapping off a broken branch from

a tree. He found another for Robin, and when the path narrowed he slipped in front. "Keep single file now," he added in a whisper.

They went on in silence for about a minute. Then:

"Jack! Jack! Robin!" It was Junge, and her voice came from down below. It seemed quite near, but it was impossible to judge.

"We're here, Junge!" shouted Jack. "In the forest. Watch for him coming out—he's ahead of us."

"All right," shouted back Junge. "He can't get away from here."

The boys paused again for a moment, and Jack raised a warning finger. The sound of the man breaking through the trees ahead had stopped.

They went forward again very quietly and slowly, following the tracks and on the alert for an attack.

"Jack!" called Junge, and there was no doubt that she was nearer now. Then she cried out urgently. "Jack, quick! He's coming out! Try to—"

Her last cry broke off as if it had been smothered.

To be continued

APPROVAL SHEETS

THE fact that for the past 73 years we have scoured the markets for scarce and out-of-the-way items from the WORLD'S stamp-issuing countries, enables us to offer to collectors a better range and a larger selection of stamps in a FINER condition than can be found elsewhere. Our entire stock is at your disposal, and we shall be glad to send selections on APPROVAL to any part of the world. Our large cash purchases enable us to price the stamps on our SHEETS at very moderate prices. FOR 73 YEARS we have been sending out sheets of stamps on Approval. Every stamp we sell is fully guaranteed, is specially selected and priced at the lowest possible figure. Ask for a selection to be sent for your inspection.

ERRINGTON & MARTIN
(Dept. CN), South Hackney, London, E.9, England
Established 1880

STAMPS ON APPROVAL

We have three ranges of Approvals.

1. Br. Coils. (MANY MINT including LATEST ISSUES).
2. GREAT BRITAIN.
3. U.S.A.

Send for selections of the countries which interest YOU! PROMPT and INDIVIDUAL attention, and, remember—we send POST FREE!

BENNETT (C),

44 Darrel Road, RETFORD, Notts.

1,000 STAMPS 7/6

ALL DIFFERENT, NO GT. BRITAIN

500, 3/6; 250, 1/9; 100, 10d.
Br. Empire: 100, 1/6; 200, 3/6; 300, 7/3;
500, 15/6. Triangulars: 10, 1/6; 25, 4/6;
50, 10/-; 100, 30/- Rly. Engines: 15, 1/6;
25, 2/6; 50, 5/6. Maps: 10, 1/6; 25, 2/9.

Ships: 10, 1/3; 25, 2/6.
All current British Colonial mint stamps in stock, including Coronation stamps and all new Elizabethan issues. Lists on request.

S. TATLOW & SONS, ECKINGTON, SHEFFIELD

ROY COLLYER

is sending a grand MYSTERY GIFT Free with his good value Approvals.

Please send stamp to
109 Pershore Road, Birmingham, 5

AT LAST!!!

FREE—BELGIAN CONGO
Stamps from this very popular country, mainly mint, showing wild animals, tropical flowers, and other interesting scenes from the Heart of Darkest Africa.

FREE—HUNGARIAN AIR TRIANGULARS
to all who apply for our Approvals, stating choice of free gift and enclosing 3d. postage.

DAVMAR STAMP CO.

88 Margaret Road, East Barnet, Herts.

3 Malta Large Victorials and List FREE to every one ordering one of the following

COLLECTIONS

1/3 EACH	2/- EACH	3/6 EACH
100 China	50 Australia	25 Albania
25 Ecuador	100 Czech	25 Andorra
100 Hungary	100 Japan	200 Belgium
100 Italy	50 S. Marino	25 Iceland
25 Pakistan	25 Siam	100 Russia

Br. Emp. 100, 1/6; 200, 3/3; 300, 7/-; 500, 14/-
World 100, 2/3; 200, 4/6; 300, 9/9; 500, 21/-

Postage 2½d. extra. Approvals. Cash with order.
BATTSTAMPS (K) 5 Home Rd., London, S.W.11

ABRACADABRA

FREE San Marino Sports Set FREE

a LARGE TRIANGLE Set
on requesting our cheap discount Approvals. Send 3d. stamp for postage, etc.
ABRA STAMPS (CN1) 18 Raleigh Rd., Exeter

CIGARETTE CARDS

Send 4d. for CATALOGUE of over 1,000 series. ALBUMS to hold 200 cards 1/9; 100 different cards 2/9 post free.

CHEESE LABELS

25 different, 1/9; 50, 3/-; 75, 5/-; 100, 7/-
16 page catalogue for 1/3 post free.
E.H.W. Ltd. (Dept. "C")
42 Victoria St., London, S.W.1

Allsorts of machines for housework...



but **Allsorts** of **Wilkinson's** for **Quality!**



The Children's Newspaper, September 26, 1953

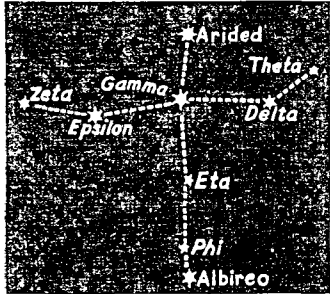
The CN Astronomer writes this week about the . . .

ANCIENT SWAN OF THE HEAVENS

THE grand constellation of Cygnus, the celestial Swan, is now almost overhead of an evening, its bright, distinctive stars being easily identified from the accompanying star-map.

For over 3000 years these stars have been pictured as a swan flying southwards with outstretched wings.

To the Ancient Greeks these stars represented the swan into which Orpheus was changed after his



death. The Romans regarded them as representing the graceful swan into which Jupiter transformed himself in order to approach Leda. Other mythological stories are also associated with this famous swan of the heavens.

In later Christian times a prominent portion of the constellation came to be known as the "Cross of Calvary" owing to the striking resemblance to the shape of a Latin Cross formed by the stars Arided, Gamma, Albireo, Epsilon, and Delta.

SEEN AT CHRISTMAS

As a swan, however, Epsilon and Zeta help to form an outstretched wing, Delta and Theta form the other, Albireo the head, and Arided its tail. Nowadays it is popularly known as the "Northern Cross," appearing erect on the north-west horizon at Christmas-time.

The leading star, known from ancient times by its Arabic name Arided, and sometimes as Deneb, is also Alpha Cygni to present-day astronomers. It is one of the finest stars known, radiating about 10,000

times more light and heat than our Sun, a colossal whirling mass of fire mist in a still more colossal nebula of helium light.

It has a claim to be regarded as one of the largest stars in the Heavens; but it is about 41,200,000 times farther away than our Sun, its light taking 651 years to reach us.

Beta-in-Cygnus, known also by its ancient name of Albireo, represented the two feet of Christ to the Christians of long ago. By a singular coincidence it is now known to be composed of two beautiful stars, the larger one orange and the other azure. They can be seen as separate stars through even a small astronomical telescope.

Actually an enormous distance separates them, and they only appear close because they are seen from our Earth in the line of sight. The azure star is about 350 light-years' journey away from us, and the other, actually a giant sun of golden hue, is about 1000 light-years' distant.

GIANT SUN

Gamma-in-Cygnus is another giant sun, radiating about 1600 times more light than our Sun but from a distance about 25,632,000 times greater, its light taking about 405 years to reach us.

Epsilon, which appears almost as bright as Gamma, is actually very much smaller and nearer, radiating only about 40 times more light than our Sun and from a distance of 78 light-years.

Delta-in-Cygnus is of much interest because it presents a solar system of vast extent. It is about 86 light-years distant and with present telescopic powers only two members of it can be seen.

These consist of a great central sun and a radiant planetary body like a world-in-the-making revolving round it at a distance very much greater than Neptune is from our Sun, and taking 321 years to cover its vast orbit. G. F. M.

HOCKEY FESTIVAL AT FOLKESTONE

The eyes of girl hockey players all over the world will be turning to Folkestone in Kent during the next two weeks, for the international women's hockey tournament is being held there from September 28 to October 10.

It is the first time that the tournament has been held in this country, and 300 of the world's best women hockey players will represent 16 nations.

It is an especially great occasion for the 250,000 girl and women players for Britain, who for two years, by means ranging from dances to selling jam-jars, have raised £14,000 for the entertainment of their guests and rivals.

LOST AND FOUND

Miss Georgina Ball, of Mary Tavy, Devon, lost a sixpence on a path near her home. Looking for it, she found a ring lost years ago by her grandmother.

CN READER WINS RADIO SET

For sending the neatest correct entry in Competition No. 34, this 12-year-old reader wins a Vidor Portable Radio Set:

JANET M. YOUNG,
Upton Bishop,
Ross-on-Wye,
Herefordshire.

Consolation Book-Tokens were awarded to:

Margaret Bourgein, Southall; Elizabeth Brown, Sunderland; Geoffrey Dowling, Salford; R. Gardner, Fareham; Sheila Hall, Middlewich; Angela Heynes, Ashburton; Alan Jones, Farnborough; Peter Scragg, Pidley; Enid Thomas, Bangor; Trevor Wall, Watford.

The Solution was D, I, J, M, O, P, Q, W, Y, Z. The objects pictured were Anchor, Bat, Cap, Egg, File, Goose, Harpsichord, Key, Lemon, Nut, Rat, Skate, Top, Ukelele, Vase, Xylophone.

CAPTAIN HOOK GLOVE PUPPET

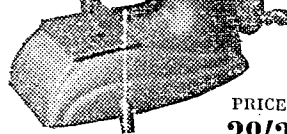


This famous character from the film "Peter Pan" is as appealing to boys as Polly Pig-tails is to girls. He's a favourite. He looks a villain.

PRICE (Complete with hook) **8/6** plus 6d. postage.

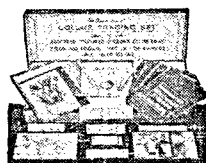
SAFETY SEWING MACHINE

All working parts on this sewing machine are totally enclosed making it safe for a child to use. It is a precision job which really sews.



PRICE **38/3** plus 1/6 postage.

COLOUR TRACING SET



Contains everything necessary for a child to trace any picture in six different colours. White tracing paper, tracing guide, coloured carbon paper, lining and shading tools all included.

PRICE **4/-** plus 9d. postage.

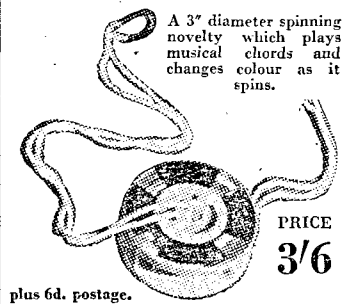
ARCHIE ANDREWS VENTRO DOLL



A perfect copy of the original "Archie Andrews" ventriloquist Dummy. The head moves from side to side and the mouth "talks." Worked by simple controls through the back of his coat.

PRICE **23/11** plus 1/1 postage.

MUSICAL SINGING RAINBOW



A 3" diameter spinning novelty which plays musical chords and changes colour as it spins.

PRICE **3/6** plus 6d. postage.

PRACTICAL JOKERS CABINET

Contains an assortment of the best practical jokes.

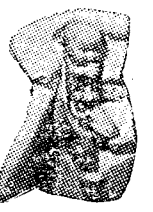


PRICE **7/11** plus 9d. postage.

POLLY PIGTAILS FINGER PUPPET

Something new and novel in Puppets, with hollow plastic head, hands and feet.

She is a darling and most fascinating. She comes to you complete and ready to use for



9/6 plus 9d. postage.

ELECTRIC IRON

Moulded from bright translucent plastic with a smooth base. Electric bulb and battery give a most realistic effect. Perfectly safe.

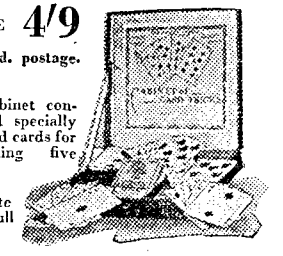


PRICE **3/9** plus 6d. postage. (Less battery)

CABINET OF CARD TRICKS

PRICE **4/9** plus 9d. postage.

This cabinet contains 21 specially prepared cards for performing five card tricks. Complete with full instructions. Tricks appear to be impossible but are really quite easy with the aid of these cards.



Please ask for complete Mail Order Catalogue.

AVON SALES (Dept. C.N.10), 55 THE AVENUE, LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK

Walters

"Palm" Toffee

THE PERFECTION OF CONFECTIONS

HAVE YOU READ THIS WEEK'S



and Transport Enthusiast's News?

Including FREE BLUE-PRINT for model making. Obtainable through Bookstalls, your Newsagents, or write Publishers.

71 Albany Street, London, N.W.1.

TABLE SOCCER THRILLS!

"NEWFOOTY"

THE GAME OF THE YEAR!

STAN MATTHEWS and NAT LOFTHOUSE say

"Exciting and Excellent Entertainment." "Most realistic of all Table Soccer Games."

Two teams—always on their feet—with you to captain a side. Pass, throw-in, score a penalty—there are thrills and thrills. Finest of all table soccer games. 10/11; 14/11; 19/11 or 45/4. Including Purchase Tax.

AVAILABLE FROM LEADING TOY SHOPS.

FREE—leaflet telling you all about "NEWFOOTY." Write today to:

W. L. KEELING & SONS (Dept. 3) Liverpool 9

BRAND NEW HEAVY DUTY CLEATED RUBBER WELLINGTONS

19/11 Post etc. 1/6

Priced everywhere at 28/11, our first stock of 5,000 pairs we are offering at 19/11. Pure hard-wearing rubber and reinforced rubber. Sizes 3 to 11 only. For use with these boots, Long Warm Socks, 3/9 a pair. Post 7d.

HEADQUARTER & GENERAL SUPPLIES, LTD. (Dept. CN/33), 196-200 Gold-harbour Lane, Loughborough Junction, London, S.E.5. Open all Sat. 1 p.m. Wed.

100,000 SOCKS ARMY GREY

5 Pairs for 9/11 Post 1/-

Hard-wearing socks. Full length, warm, woolen mixture. Brand-New stock of 50,000 pairs to be offered at less than cost of production. Buy before the cold weather commences.

REAL GERMAN OLD WORLD CLOCK POPULAR CUCKOO-CLOCK CARVING

19/11 Post, etc. 1/6

100% real German Black Forest clock in delightful woodland design, an art in carving and clockmaking industry handed down from father to son. Every 1 hour hear the call, listen also to the homely tick-tock of the pendulum. No maiming to break, nothing to go wrong. Works on brass chain with weight. Guaranteed. No more to pay. Free list watches, Binoculars, etc. TERMS. (Dept. CN/33), 196-200 Gold-harbour Lane, Loughborough Junction, London, S.E.5. Open all Sat. 1 p.m. Wed.

MATCH-BOX and CHEESE LABELS on Approval, particulars, stamp. CIGARETTE CARDS

List, 1,700 different sets, 6d. post free.

Mrs. M. B. SMITH, 56 Portland Street, London, S.E.17

RADIO FOR BOYS

Constructional Plans Now Ready for

SUPER ONE VALVE BATTERY SET 1/- post free

R.E.P. Ltd. 33 Much Park Street, Coventry

CONJURING

Send 3d. for Illustrated Catalogue and FREE TRICK to

BCM/TRICKS (C), 67 Bayham Street, London, N.W.1

CHEMISTRY

Wide range of apparatus and Laboratory Equipment.

Send 2½d. stamp for Price List.

A. N. BECK & SONS (Dept. C.N.), 60 Stoke Newington High Street London, N.16

5/- DEPOSIT AND PAY OFF ANY ITEM

NEW U.S.A. UKELELE

Be popular everywhere

FREE SELF TUTOR teaches you to play in 1 hour. No musical knowledge required. Not a toy. Full size.

19/11 Post and Pkg. 3/- C.O.D. 1/- extra

Walking Doll 21" WITH PLAITS **35/-** Post 2/6 or C.O.D.

YOU CAN WALK WASH COMB & TALK PERM SIT MY HAIR SLEEP

Sleeping eyes with eyelashes, movable limbs. Hard body. Beautifully dressed with shoes.

Send 4d. stamp for Xmas Coloured Catalogue

JOIN OUR CHRISTMAS CLUB

Real Microscope

For all students and school work. Enlarges up to 50 times. Rack and pinion focusing.

Post & Pkg. 1/5 or C.O.D. 1/- extra. Complete with slides—specimen box. Forceps and full instructions. 8½" x 3" x 2½"

6/11

MONTROSE PRODUCTS (Dept. CNP 26) 623/7 Holloway Road, London, N.19

THE BRAN TUB

WELL DONE?

AN Irish advertisement: "For sale. Bakery business. Good trade and oven. Present owner been in it for seven years. Good reason for leaving."

What am I?

A GRACEFUL bird, I am the male,
And my wings possess great force.
Yet strange to say, I often am
The farmer's favourite horse.

Answer next week

On this day . . .

MICHAELMAS DAY (September 29) originated from a special festival—the Feast of St. Michael and All Angels, which was instituted in 487.

It was usual to eat goose on this day, which may have originated the rural tenant's custom of presenting a goose to his lord at this time of the year—just about the time when the bird is in fine condition.

In England Michaelmas Day is also a "quarter" day. Magistrates in the United Kingdom are usually appointed at or about Michaelmas, for until 1873 the first term of the legal year was the Michaelmas term, November 2—25.

BEDTIME CORNER

THANKS TO ROVER

BILLY was playing in the front garden when Paul's mother came out of her house.

"I don't think your new bird tray is going to be very successful," she said. "Rover keeps on barking—he's scaring the birds away!"

Billy had recently made a little bird tray, complete with a saucer of water, and fastened it to a pole in the centre of the garden.

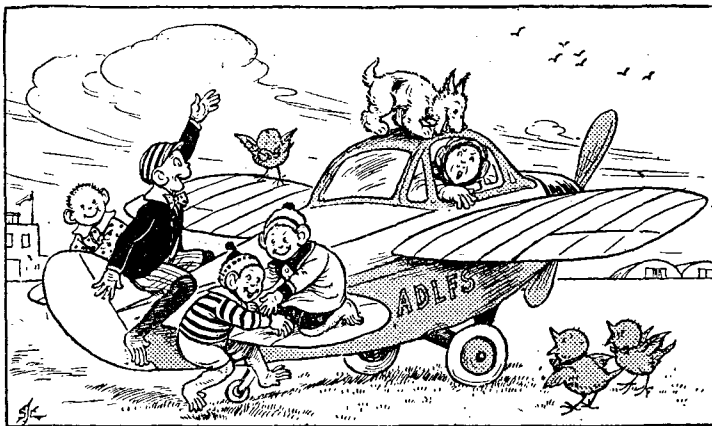
He immediately dashed round to the back garden, ready to give Rover a scolding.

There was Rover, barking loudly. But he was barking at a hedge, not at the birdcage.

He ran up to Billy and then back to the hedge, still barking. And then, behind the hedge, Billy saw a small bird, one wing hanging limp.

Billy soon had it warmly wrapped up and off to the vet's. Later he saw Paul. "The vet

JACKO AND CO. WERE NOT WELCOME



Jacko and Co. had come to see Adolphus take off in his aeroplane. As usual, he would have been much happier without them, and it was not long before they themselves had to "take-off"—without a plane. "Well, at least we saw him fly into a temper," said Jacko later.

Spot Ted

Ted is a busy lad, here, there, and everywhere. Each line of the following verse suggests a word or words which end in his name—TED. How many of them can you spot?

"THE dog is snow white, flecked with tiny black spots,"

Said Montague, filled with elation. "You've squandered enough time," his father remarked.

"I asked you to go to the station."

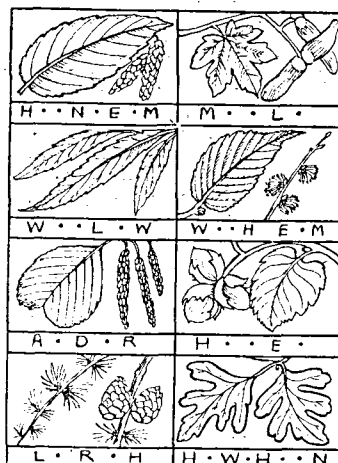
Answer next week

Guilty conscience

MANY years ago, a nobleman received from one of his employees a letter with this postscript: "I beg your lordship will excuse me for having taken the liberty of writing this in my shirt sleeves, but the excessive heat has compelled me to be guilty in this respect."

Name the leaves . . .

. . . by filling in the dots



Hazel, larch, maple, willow, wych elm, alder, Hornbeam, hawthorn.

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two letters of the next, and so on.

1. Longest river in Europe (nearly 2500 miles); highly important to Russia as a commercial waterway; flows into the Caspian Sea through a delta with about 200 mouths.

2. Italian physiologist who discovered and investigated the relation between muscle action and electricity.

3. A great figure in hospital nursing; at the head of a team of volunteers she went to the Crimea in 1854 and saved the lives of countless soldiers.

4. Port on the Firth of Forth; harbour was granted to the citizens of Edinburgh by Robert the Bruce in 1329.

Answer next week

WHO HAS THE PAPER?

"WHO has my paper?" father said.

"Well, I have not," replied young Ted.

"Richard, of course," called brother Sam.

"No, Ted took it, I'm sure," cried Pam.

"Pam's telling fibs," sighed Mrs. Draper.

One statement's false; who has the paper?

Richard. The issue is between Ted and Mrs. Draper confirmed Ted's statement and as only one statement is false it must be Pam's.

Sammy Simple

"HEY, wait for me. You're walking too fast," called out Sammy to his father.

"I'm walking quite slowly," came the retort. "I walk much faster when I'm by myself."

"Then," replied Sammy, "I should hate to be with you when you are by yourself."

Double meaning

The two missing words are similarly pronounced, but have different meanings. Can you find what they are?

SMALL Jonathan began to —, The sun was very hot.

He soon found out one — was flat, Which vexed him quite a lot.

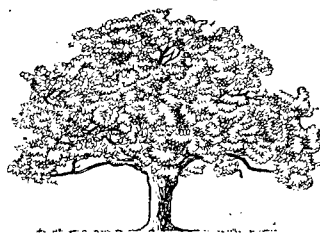
Experts say . . .

. . . that cobras are deaf and cannot hear the snake charmer's music.

FAMILIAR TREES

THE mighty oaks, probably the best known of British trees, take various forms. Sometimes their spread exceeds their height. The bark is very thick and rugged. Oak leaves are long and narrow, with deep, uneven lobes.

Sometimes they appear late in



the year, usually because the first leaves have been ravaged by insects or torn off by gales. The value of oak timber varies according to the soil on which it grows. Clay produces an exceptionally tough wood, a fact which made the Essex coastal oaks famous for shipbuilding.

Nowadays, oak is much used for furniture and in building.

A question of money

WHAT is the smallest sum of money that can be written down, using all figures from 1 to 9?

25718519

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Chain Quiz
Wyldife, fetish,
shrike, Kew

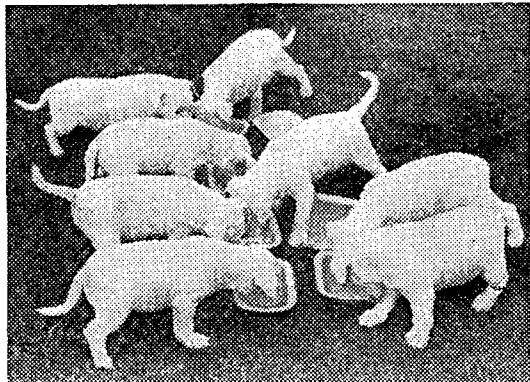
What am I?
Monday, dynamo

Grouped together
Flock, pack, drove,
covey, flight, herd,
nest, brood, pride,
hide

F	A	R	E	A	I	D	E
U	E	R	U	P	T	E	D
S	P	E	S	T	M	E	
S	P	A	E	L	F	I	N
L	S	D	Y	E	S		
C	A	T	E	R	S	E	T
A	N	N	E	S	T	U	
R	E	S	I	D	U	E	R
S	T	E	M	E	R	I	N

FULL SPEED AHEAD

A meal disappears in record time when eight hungry puppies set to work



Sharps

the word for Toffee

Edward Sharp & Sons Ltd "The Toffee Specialists" of Maidstone

Makers of Super-Kreem and Kreemy Toffees.